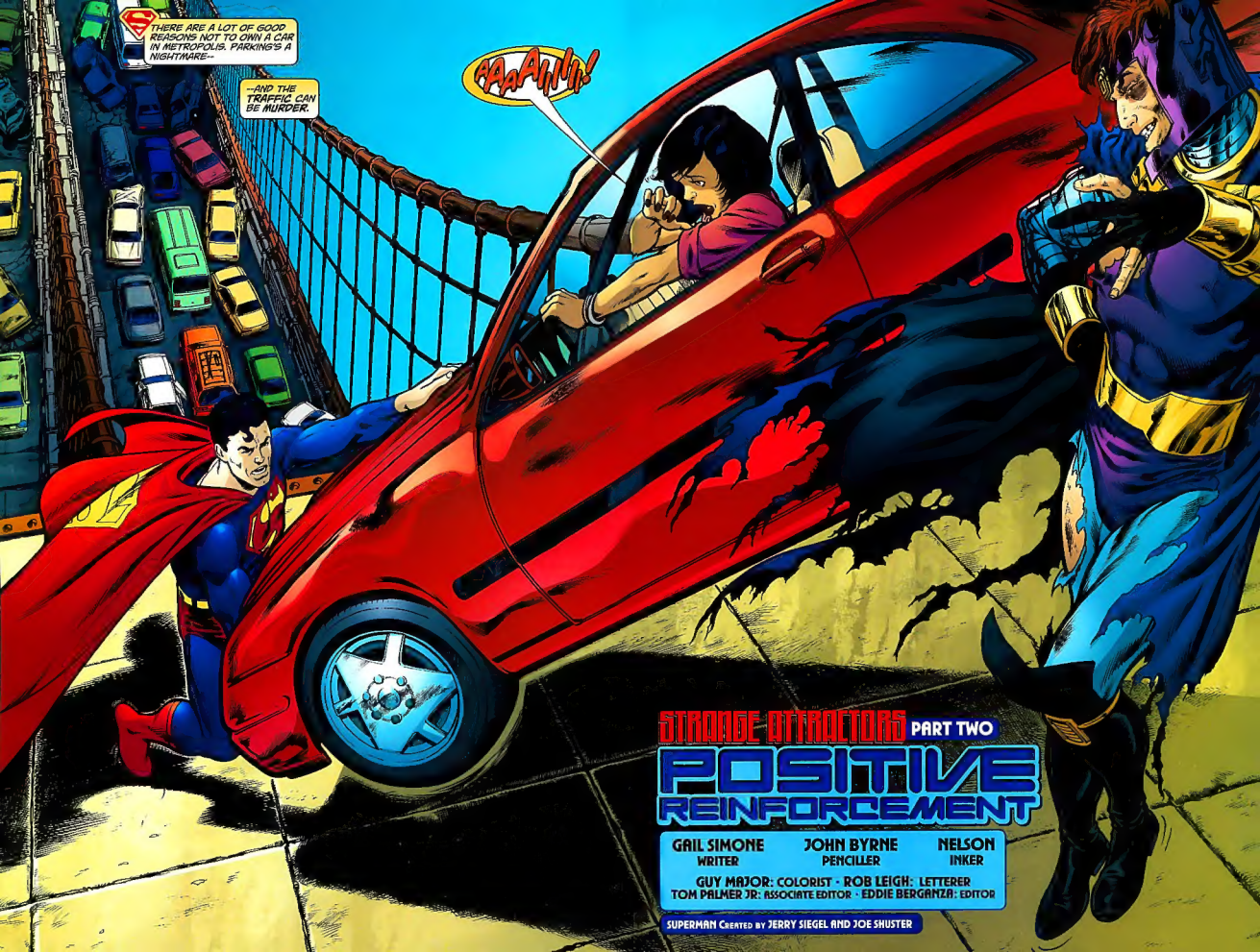
DC
SUPERMAN IN
ACTION
COMICS
No. 828
AUG 05
DIRECT SALES
$2.50 US $3.50 CAN
SIMONE • BYRNE • NELSON
dccomics.com

DAILY PLANET PARKING GARAGE.
FOR PETE'S SAKE, MR. SCHUMAN, I KNOW YOU JUST TRANSFERRED FROM OPAL CITY, BUT AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE A REPORTER?
HEY, WATCH THE MOUTH THERE, KID!
IN CASE YOU HAVN'T NOTICED, THERE ARE CARS FLYING EVERYWHERE THIS DR. POLARIS GOES...AND YOU WANT TO CHASE HIM?
IN MY CAR?
COME ON.. YOU TELLING ME THAT THE TWO OF US COULDN'T USE A BIG, FAT, JUICY BYLINE?
ALL RIGHT, IF ONLY TO KEEP YOU FROM CRYING LIKE A GIRL.
THANKS, MR. SCHUMAN. YOU WON'T REGRET THIS!
AND YOU KNOW THIS HOW?
DO NOT ENTER
NEXT STOP, THE BAY BRIDGE!
DAILY PLANET
VROOOOM
SKREEEECH
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT...
METROPOLIS CREDIT UNION
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, STOPPING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD, YOU RED-HEADED LUNATIC?
SORRY, MR. SCHUMAN... THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO GET!
SPORTS & STUFF
BIG BELLY BURGER


THERE ARE A LOT OF GOOD REASONS NOT TO OWN A CAR IN METROPOLIS. PARKING'S A NIGHTMARE--
--AND THE TRAFFIC CAN BE MURDER.
AAAHHH!
STRANGE ATTRACTORS PART TWO
POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT
GAIL SIMONE WRITER
JOHN BYRNE PENCILLER
NELSON INKER
GUY MAJOR: COLORIST · ROB LEIGH: LETTERER
TOM PALMER JR: ASSOCIATE EDITOR · EDDIE BERGANZA: EDITOR
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

AAAHHH!
VISION'S STILL BLURRY, BUT I DON'T NEED SUPER-HEARING FOR THAT.
SWEET AS TUPELO HONEY.
AND NOW THAT HE'S PREOCCUPIED...
...THAT LEAVES JUST YOU AND ME, SWEETIE.
LET'S GET ALL NICE AND FATAL, SHALL WE?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MA'AM?
¡NO PUEDO... MI PUERTA ESTÁ ATORADA! ¡NO PUEDO!
IT'S A LITTLE BIT COMPLICATED.
¡SEÑORA, NECESITO QUITARLA DEL PUENTE! ¡APRÉSURESE!
¡CORRA!
BUT I'M FACING A MASTER OF MAGNETISM. SOMEONE WHO'S FINALLY REALIZED THAT THAT INCLUDES THE ENTIRE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM.
SUPERMAN! HELP ME!
INCLUDING LIGHT AND INFRARED.
SO I'M FIGHTING NEARLY BLIND.
WHAT'S WORSE, THERE ARE CIVILIANS EVERYWHERE.
YOU KNOW, YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE, CONTINUING TO EXIST AND ALL.
I MEAN, HOW DARE YOU?
DON'T YOU GET IT? ONE.
ONE OF US IS ALL THE WORLD REALLY NEEDS.
NGHHHH!

AW, I KNEW YOU COULDN'T STAY AWAY, PEANUT.
SO, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
LET'S EAT THIS CITY'S SKELETON.
SUPERMAN.
SHE'S GOING TO... KILL ME. HELP ME!
THE MAN BEING SLOWLY CRUSHED TO DEATH IS DR. POLARIS, ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL VILLAINS ON EARTH.
HE'D RECENTLY BEEN CURED OF A SEVERE CASE OF MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER...
...APPARENTLY, IT DIDN'T STICK.
I'M THINKING OF A NUMBER OF SEVERED LIMBS BETWEEN ONE AND FOUR.
BECAUSE HIS DELUSIONS ARE BACK, WITH A VENGEANCE.
HE'S CREATED ANOTHER IDENTITY, ONE ONLY HE CAN SEE...A WOMAN THIS TIME.
CALLS HER REPULSE.
YOU REALLY ARE A DURABLE SORT, DOODLEBUG.
AND SHE WANTS THE REAL IDENTITY, POLARIS, DEAD.

I WONDER IF THAT'D BE CONSIDERED MURDER OR SUICIDE.
...PERMAN... LP ME...
EITHER WAY...
IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.
POLARIS.
THIS "REPULSE" DOESN'T EXIST.
SHE'S ONLY IN YOUR MIND, EMERSON. THAT'S YOUR OWN VOICE YOU'RE HEARING. YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES HERE.
YOU CAN FIGHT THIS.
ARE YOU... ARE YOU INSANE?
SHE'S RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE, POLARIS. DO YOU HEAR ME?
NO ONE.
OH, PEANUT. WHAT A NARROW VIEW YOU HAVE OF REALITY.
I SO VERY MUCH BEG TO DIFFER.

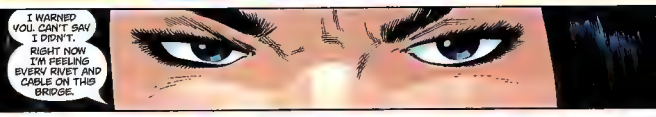
SUICIDE SLUM, METROPOLIS.
...ENDING MY TERM TO RUIN ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST SOFTWARE FIRMS NOW, SOME OF YOU JUST MIGHT REMEMBER WHEN THIS CITY GAVE A CHANCE TO A SKINNY HOMETOWN KID TO LIVE HIS DREAM AS QUARTERBACK OF THE METROPOLIS METEORS FOR THREE WINNING SEASONS...
WELL, THAT SKINNY KID WAS ME, AND I WANT TO THANK THE CITY'S CORPORATE DONORS FOR HELPING ME FULFILL ANOTHER DREAM...
MARK SHEPHARD — EAST — METROPOLIS YOUTH CENTER
...THE EAST METROPOLIS YOUTH CENTER.
FOR ALL THE CHILDREN OF THIS GREAT CITY!
MY GOOD FRIENDS IN THE MEDIA...
...ANY QUESTIONS BEFORE WE ALL TOUR THE FACILITY TOGETHER?
ACTUALLY, CONGRESSMAN...
I HAVE A QUESTION.
LOIS LANE.
I'M WITH THE PLANET.

I HAVE IN MY HAND A FILE FULL OF CLANDESTINE PAPERS DOCUMENTING HOW YOU, MR. SHEPHARD, AS WELL AS THREE MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF AND AT LEAST FOUR CLOSE ASSOCIATES...
...USED THIS CENTER AS YOUR OWN PRIVATE PIGGY BANK, SIPHONING OFF FUNDS INTENDED FOR CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND STAFFING TO REPLACE FUNDS EMBEZZLED FROM YOUR OWN SOFTWARE COMPANY.
THAT...
THAT... MONSTROUS ALLEGATION IS UTTERLY WITHOUT...
AND THEY FURTHER SHOW THAT YOU PERSONALLY HAVE POCKETED NEARLY THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION DOLLARS MEANT TO GO TO DISADVANTAGED KIDS AS PART OF THE CENTER'S OUTREACH PROGRAM.
LADIES, GENTLEMEN, OBVIOUSLY THERE'S BEEN SOME SORT OF MISTAKE, AND I'M SURE ONCE MARK SORTS THIS ALL OUT...uh...
...WHO WANTS CAKE?
FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, MIKE, WHO LET LANE IN?
GO, YOU BEAUTIFUL RAINMAKER, YOU.
SO I GUESS MY QUESTION IS, SIR...
...ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU WANT TO NAME THE CENTER AFTER YOURSELF?

STOP! STOP IT! CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT CARS ARE COMING STRAIGHT AT US?
I KNOW! I KNOW!
THEY'RE TRYING TO GET AWAY AND WE'RE THE ONLY MORONS HEADING INTO THE COMBAT ZONE!
IT'S THE FRECKLES! THEY'VE MADE YOU CRAZY!!
I SEE 'EM!
SOMETHING'S WRONG. SUPERMAN'S NOT FIGHTING BACK!
THINK I CAN GET UP THERE...
NO. NOW THIS, I FORBID. I MEAN IT, OLSEN. YOU ARE TO STAY.
RIGHT.
HERE.
sigh

DO YOU FEEL YOUR STRENGTH SLOWLY FADING, SUPERMAN?
THE E.M. SPECTRUM IS MADE UP OF ALL FORMS OF RADIATION.
INCLUDING SOLAR RADIATION, DONTCHA KNOW.
THE YELLOW SUN GIVETH AND THE YELLOW SUN TAKETH AWAY.
GOT THE IDEA FROM A PHYSICS STUDENT'S WEBLOG.
BUT THERE'S ONE THING I DON'T GET ABOUT YOU, PEANUT.
SEE, PEOPLE THINK OF YOU AS SORT OF AN EXPATRIATE ALIEN, DON'T THEY?
NATURALIZED.
LIKE THE WHOLE WORLD ADOPTED YOU.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT'S REALLY UNDER THE CAPE, IS IT?
YOU'RE MORE OF A CASTAWAY, AREN'T YOU?
A DARLING LITTLE HOLDOVER FROM THE FARTHEST-OFF-COURSE SHIPWRECK IN HISTORY.
THAT'S YOU, PEANUT.
YOU'RE JUST AN EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ROBINSON CRUSOE.
WITH SIX BILLION FRIDAYS.

I WARNED YOU. CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T. RIGHT NOW I'M FEELING EVERY RIVET AND CABLE ON THIS BRIDGE.



"AND I THINK I'D LIKE TO SEE IT ALL GO AWAY."

POLARIS'S DELUSION... THIS "REPULSE" HE KEEPS PRETENDING TO BE...

SHE'S MORE POWERFUL AND DANGEROUS THAN THE ORIGINAL, SOMEHOW.

HARD TO FIGHT A PSYCHOTIC ENEMY...

LISTEN. YOU ARE DR. NEAL EMERSON. YOU SUFFER FROM A FORM OF MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER.

...WHO'S JUST AN ILLUSION IN A SICK GENIUS'S MIND.

I CAN'T FIGHT HER, SUPERMAN. I'M... I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH.

SHE'S EVERYTHING I'M AFRAID OF!

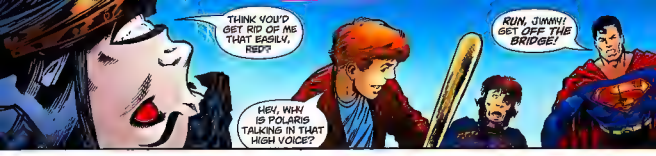
"EVERYTHING HE'S..."

WAIT. COULD IT BE...?

DON'T YOU TELL HIM THAT, YOU ALIEN FREAK!
KRUNK
YOU CONFUSE ME WITH THAT...THAT LITTLE SNOT-STAIN OF A MAN? THAT LITTLE EGGHEAD CREEP?
LOOK AND SEE, SUPERMAN...
I'M A STAR TO HIS LIGHTBULB!

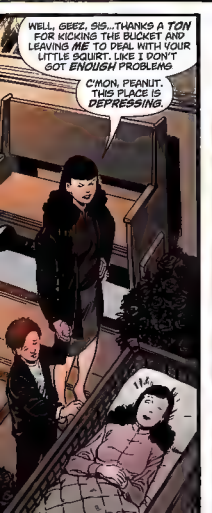
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU WERE DOING BACK THERE?
HEY... HEY!
YOU LET GO OF HER!
PIPE DOWN, PIPSQUEAK.
I ASKED YOU A QUESTION, LADY.
I DIDN'T EXPECT...
OH, I KNOW WHAT YOU EXPECTED, MR. SHEPHARD
YOU EXPECTED TO FIND A PRESS CORPS TOO LAZY TO GET THEIR OWN FACTS, AND TOO COMPLACENT TO LET SUCH A PHOTOGENIC, FEEL-GOOD STORY GO.
YOU EXPECTED ACCOMPLICES, NOT REPORTERS.
YOU EXPECTED WE'D ALL BE BOUGHT BY A WINNING SMILE AND A FREE BUFFET.
I'VE BEEN CALLED MANY THINGS, MISTER SHEPHARD.
BUT NEVER A CHEAP DATE.
MAY I HAVE MY ARM BACK? SUPERMAN IS APPARENTLY FIGHTING DR. POLARIS ON THE BAY BRIDGE, AND YOUR STORY IS OVER.
A LOT OF MY MOST POWERFUL FRIENDS DO BUSINESS WITH YOUR PAPER, MS. LANE.
HAVE THEM CALL MY EDITOR, PERRY WHITE, AROUND LUNCH.
HE SAYS THREATS IMPROVE HIS DIGESTION.
I THINK I ACTUALLY GOT THE SHOT AT THE EXACT MOMENT HE REALIZED HIS POLITICAL FUTURE WAS DISAPPEARING.
MIKE, IN A FEW DAYS, I'M EITHER GOING TO NEED AN APOLOGY FROM OR REVENGE ON THAT WOMAN.
ALREADY ON IT, SIR.

TRIED TO BE NICE.
SO LET'S TRY SOMETHING ELSE.
YOU'VE... YOU'VE SCARRED ME, YOU UNWANTED BRAT.
HEY, GO-GO-BOT.
YOUR CITY WILL CRUMBLE FOR THAT, SUPERMAN!
I THINK IT'S MY TURN AT BAT.
SOLID, NON-MAGNETIC ASH WOOD. NO SPLINTERING, NO CRACKING.
NOW, THAT'S QUALITY!
THINK YOU'D GET RID OF ME THAT EASILY, RED?


THINK YOU'D GET RID OF ME THAT EASILY, RED?
HEY, WHY IS POLARIS TALKING IN THAT HIGH VOICE?
RUN, JIMMY! GET OFF THE BRIDGE!

EMERSON!
STOP THIS THING BEFORE SOMEONE DIES.

YOU SAID SHE WAS EVERYTHING YOU WERE AFRAID OF, EMERSON. THINK.
WHO IS REPULSE, REALLY? WHO MADE YOU THIS AFRAID?


WELL, GEEZ, SIS...THANKS A TON FOR KICKING THE BUCKET AND LEAVING ME TO DEAL WITH YOUR LITTLE SQUIRT. LIKE I DON'T GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS
C'MON, PEANUT. THIS PLACE IS DEPRESSING.

C'MON, TONY, IT'S JUST MY SISTER'S KID...
SORRY, BUT I DON'T FEEL IN THE MOOD WITH THAT LITTLE BRAT ASKIN' FOR WATER EVERY FIVE SECONDS.

...SICK OF YOU LEAVING YOUR FILTHY MESSES IN MY PLACE, YOU EGGHEADED LITTLE FREAK.

I...
I REMEMBER.
OH.
DAMN.
BLACK ADAM.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, BUT...
WELL, THAT WAS AN ODD SPECTACLE.
I'M AFRAID WE'RE HERE FOR POLARIS, SUPERMAN.
THE CHOICE IS SIMPLE, SUPERMAN. FIGHT US...
...OR STOP THIS BADLY DAMAGED BRIDGE FROM COLLAPSING WITH ALL OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN STILL ON IT.

TAKE HIM TO THE SOCIETY'S HEADQUARTERS, ZOOM. GO.
BUUUUT WHAATABOUT YOOOO OOU?
Uh. SHE IS DEAD, RIGHT? I MEAN, SHE'S REALLY DEAD, ISN'T SHE?
DO YOU THINK SHE'S REALLY DEAD?
WHAT A RACE HE MUST HAVE COME FROM, THAT BUILT SUCH HEARTS.
I'M ASSUMING YOUR HEAT VISION IS STILL OPERATIONAL?
YOU CAME BACK...?
HURRY.
WE HAVE MORE WORK HERE.
I DON'T SEE IT, TETH ADAM.
WHY WOULD A MAN LIKE YOU ALLY YOURSELF WITH SOMEONE LIKE POLARIS?
HE IS A MAN THAT BELIEVES IN NOTHING, IT'S TRUE.
BUT I HAVE MY REASONS.

THIS ISN'T OVER, ADAM.
DO YOU PLAN TO ARREST ME, SUPERMAN, THE MONARCH OF KAHNDAQ?
ON WHAT GROUNDS... SAVING LIVES?
SEEMS RATHER UNLIKELY.
A CONFRONTATION IS COMING, SUPERMAN. BETWEEN YOUR COMMUNITY AND THOSE YOU SEEK TO CONTROL.
I SUSPECT YOU AND I WILL MEET AGAIN ON THAT DAY.
LISTEN, BOYCHICK...BYLINE OR NO, IF WE'RE GOING TO WORK TOGETHER, YOU HAVE TO *PROMISE* ME...
...NO MORE HOMICIDAL AND GENDER-CONFUSED MAGNET GUYS, GOT IT.
OH, *GEEZ.*
I FORGOT TO TAKE ANY *PHOTOS!*
PERRY'S GONNA *KILL* ME!
MY *CAR.* MY BEAUTIFUL *CAR.*

WHEN WAR COMES HOME
By Clark Kent
(Continued)
This phenomenon is not, unfortunately, limited to one small tribe. The number of harassed and terrorized indigenous peoples around the world amount to a grim list that never seems to stop growing. And yet, even those who are well enough, connected enough, and rich enough to leave often find the prospect of abandoning their lands, families, and cultures more unbearable than a future where peace is an unimaginable dream.
I once asked the now-martyred civil rights leader Kobe Asuru why he would choose to stay in a place where the fighting never ended, and new enemies replaced the old with each passing season.
"Because it is my home," he said.
NICE, MR. KENT.
VERY NICE.

THAT'S HIGH PRAISE, COMING FROM YOU, MS. LANE. ROUGH DAY?
A LITTLE. YOU?
I'VE HAD BETTER. TAKE A WALK WITH ME?

...OKAY, SO MAYBE IT *WAS* A BIT OF AN AMBUSH, BUT THE GUY WAS STEALING FROM KIDS, CLARK. IF I HADN'T MADE THE STORY AS SEXY AS POSSIBLE--
--HE'D BE MORE LIKELY TO GET AWAY WITH IT.
YEAH.
NOT SAYING I'M *PROUD* OF IT.
YOU TOLD THE TRUTH, LOIS. HE'LL HAVE HIS CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF. AT LEAST *ONE* OF US GOT THEIR MAN, TODAY.
IT WAS HIS *SMILE* THAT GOT TO ME...USING THOSE POOR KIDS AS A PHOTO OP, WHILE TAKING THE MONEY MEANT FOR *THEM*.
CLARK?
ARE YOU SURE YOUR NEW BOOK IS ABOUT AFRICA, AND NOT METROPOLIS?
BOTH, MAYBE.
BUT IT'S MY HOME NOW. AND THERE'LL ALWAYS BE ANOTHER THREAT, ANOTHER DR. POLARIS.
OKAY, THAT'S ANOTHER THING. WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST TAKE HIM OUT WHEN YOU FIRST HAD THE CHANCE? WHY TRY TO REASON WITH AN OBVIOUS MADMAN?
YOU'LL LAUGH.
YOU KNOW I WON'T.
HE'S A SICK MAN, LOIS.
AND I KNOW BETTER THAN *MOST* THAT IT'S HARD ENOUGH MAINTAINING EVEN *ONE* IDENTITY SOME DAYS.
I FELT CONFIDENT I COULD PROTECT THE CIVILIANS... UNTIL HE *THREW* ME WITH THAT EMP MOVE.
MAYBE I WAS TOO COCKY. IT COULD HAVE ENDED *BADLY*.
BUT I WANTED TO GIVE HIM A *CHANCE*, AT LEAST.
YOU CARE ABOUT THE RIGHT THINGS, CLARK. I LOVE THAT.
GUESS WE SHOULD GET BACK.
YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO BE BATMAN, ARE YOU?
NO. I'LL NEVER BE BATMAN.

NICE, MR. KENT.
VERY NICE.
NEXT ISSUE:
DARKSEID